

JAPAN'S IMPENDING DOOM

THE British nation, in the throes of its political upheaval, might have appeared forgetful of the grim struggle being waged far off in the Pacific—the war that has still to be won. But it was not so; and, indeed, since the war in Europe ended we have been permitted to view the Far Eastern campaigns in truer perspective, and better able, perhaps, to assess the magnitude of the task that still confronts the Allies before the Japanese tyranny is finally trampled in the dust.

But it is certain that the Japanese people can now be in little doubt as to the awful pass into which their treacherous and vainglorious war-leaders have led their once-pleasant country. For the bombs now fall on Japanese cities as they once fell on Berlin. As the war industries are being destroyed the Japanese must be aware that the end of their vaunted military régime is not far distant. Already, it is reported, armament factories are being moved to the Chinese mainland, and preparations are being made for a flight of the emperor to a remote fastness in Manchuria.

JAPAN is doomed to endure the same fate and discipline as Germany, her partner in aggression. Now that the one has been eliminated the turn of the other cannot be long delayed. The Allies have to settle the long account which began at Pearl Harbour in 1941, an account of bad faith, deception, perfidy, and sudden attack. China has even a longer account to settle, one of aggression and intrigue going back to 1894 when Japan secured a footing on Chinese territory, and stayed. China has now entered the ninth year of her present conflict against the Japanese invader.

On this side of the world we have perhaps been less aware of Japan's aims in the Pacific than China and America. Nevertheless, with silent, secretive efficiency, Japan has spread her world of influence and authority into all the Pacific areas. From island to island her

agents moved politely as traders and tourists, studying the strategical setting of remote places so that when the hour struck the long-laid plans of conquest could be put smoothly into action.

Is there any real difference between the ideas which brought defeat and ruin to Germany and the ideas which have exalted Japanese nationalism? In theory, no, but in practice many. Both have compelled the individual to bow down before the state, and in so doing have denied all freedom of action, thought, and speech. Both have demanded utter and implicit obedience to a leader's commands, and have crushed any questioning of authority by brutal methods.

Japan's scheme meant an over-lordship of the Eastern world, and Germany's that of the Western world—as a beginning. To allow her to succeed would be to subject the peoples of India, Burma, and China, moving now towards their own freedom, to a tyrant whose ingenious cruelty and lust for power would crush their life and their growing liberty.

Large areas of China have been in the hands of the conqueror for over seven years, and the age-long patience of the Chinese people has been tested severely by the seeming inability, at times, of their powerful Western Allies to strike effective blows against the enemy. The world has admired increasingly the stubborn resistance of China even when the life-lines with the outer world were cut, and she was almost completely sealed off from her friends.

BUT the hour of victory approaches. The steady destruction of Japan's war potential, which will proceed with the same relentlessness as did the destruction of Germany's armament factories, means that China and her Allies are coming to grips with the aggressors in a last onslaught which will provide all the nations of the East with a new chance of an ordered and peaceful era—an era from which all mankind must ultimately benefit.

FOR THE YOUTH OF STALINGRAD

THERE could be no finer tribute from the United Nations to Russia than the proposed presentation of a Youth Centre to Stalingrad—scene of Russia's most heroic battle—as a Memorial to young Soviet citizens killed in this war.

An appeal to British Youth for £50,000, for Britain's share in the Centre, is being made by the Anglo-Soviet Youth Friendship Alliance, 12b St George Street, London, W.1. The proposed Youth Centre at Stalingrad will, it is hoped, serve as a hostel for young travellers from all over the world—an international youth-centre. It is planned to include

in its buildings: canteens and restaurants, a library containing the greatest works of eminent men of science and letters, a room for religious worship by different denominations, a theatre and cinema for the best plays and films of the world, reading rooms, and so on. Outside the buildings, it is hoped, there will be gardens, football fields, and other athletic grounds where international contests could be held.

Readers of the CN will agree that this is a wonderful opportunity for the young people of Britain to make a gesture to the Youth of heroic Russia.

Yeast For Health

INDIA hopes to start the home production of food yeast.

Dewan Nanak Chand, of the Food Department, has recommended to the Government that a factory be set up at once to make as much as 3000 tons a year. There are plenty of molasses (raw sugar syrup) in India from which to manufacture this food-concentrate with its very high vitamin value. Mixed with curries for rice-eating peoples, or with bread for wheat-eaters, food yeast could greatly improve Indian diets.

The idea of food yeast has travelled far in the British

Empire since its discovery only a few years ago by British scientists. The very first food-yeast factory was set up in the colony of Jamaica, with help from Britain under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. A second factory was later set up in Barbados, and a third in British Guiana.

It was foreseen that wherever sugar-cane grows—in British East Africa, Mauritius, and Fiji, as well as the Caribbean dependencies—food yeast factories could serve the double purpose of enriching local diets as well as local industrial prosperity.

Milking Snakes

CAN anything be more unnerving than to seize a cobra or a viper captured from the heart of the Indian jungle and "milk" it of its venom?

Yet that is done regularly every Thursday afternoon by Mohadav Gangaram Yadav, just as his father did before him, at the Haffkine Institute of Medical Research in Bombay.

The purpose of this "milking," as described in Phoenix, of India, is to secure from the cobras and vipers, kept in glass cases at the institute, anti-snake venom serum which by certain processes is made effective against bites from India's four common snakes, the cobra, krait, Russell's viper, and saw-scaled viper.

Mohadav does his weekly "milking" with a nonchalance amazing to watch. The cobra or viper gives a hiss of hate at his approach, but he just gives the snake a friendly prod, seizes it by the tail, and he pins it to the ground with a stick, just behind the head. Next he grips the snake and gives it a pinch with a pair of tweezers. Out shoot the fangs, and with them the venom, which drops into a glass.

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

EVERY
TUESDAY
3dPOSTAGE
Inland 1d
Abroad 1d
No 1374

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE



Sight-Seeing in India

These bonny WAAFs are not queuing up for a shoeshine, but having overshoes fitted before entering a mosque in Old Delhi's famous Red Fort. No one may enter a mosque in outdoor shoes.

HELPING BLINDED AFRICANS

BLIND people can be taught to see with their hands, and a new school to do this for the blind of British East Africa is to be opened next September.

Government money is to pay for the housing of 100 students, and two Armies are to help in the actual training. The first is the Army proper, which is interested in the training of war-blinded African soldiers. The second is the Salvation Army, which has already had useful experience in running an East African blind school of its own.

The Salvation Army, in its present East African school, is teaching subjects ranging from English (with reading in Braille) to spinning, net-making, touch-

typing, and the caning of chair-seats. Many of the students have had little schooling beforehand, and courses may last from a few months to several years, according to need. But highly-educated Africans have found help here, too. A promising medical student from Uganda, for example, went blind suddenly. His career, however, is not finished because of that. He can already read Braille almost as fast as he once read ordinary print, and is now taking a course as a masseur. He is an outstanding example of the way in which blinded Africans, in spite of their great handicap, are being trained to become happy and useful citizens.

From the Outer Isles

STORM-GIRT Harris, though remotely situated in the Outer Hebrides, has an ambitious youth education scheme.

World-famous for the weaving of tweed, the beautiful colourings of which are made by dyes secured from heather and wild flowers, Harris local authorities mean to see that their young people are adequately trained.

Of first importance is the teaching of the weaving of

tweed which is stretched as it has been for ages by pressing hands on it to the lilt of "waulking" songs.

Harris youths will also be nominated for the new ship-building "college" at Mr Murray Stephen's Clydeside shipyard. Here they will receive pre-apprenticeship training with full pay during hours of study until they qualify for entrance into their selected trades.

THE WORLD'S SECOND FREEDOM

An Indian Soldier's Ambition

THROUGH all our perils of the past five and a half years we in this country have never had to face actual hunger, and, like other fortunate people, are sometimes apt to forget that even in peacetime many of the world's 2100 millions live in constant fear of the loss of their daily bread.

The architects of the Atlantic Charter put Freedom from Want among the primary needs of humanity, and steps to achieve it were among the first taken by the United Nations in their plans for a better world.

It has long been recognised by intelligent men and women everywhere, as readers of the CN well know, that man's scientific powers of producing food should make it unnecessary for any human being anywhere to be in want. Yet, even in the days before the war, too often there was the tragic paradox of want in the midst of plenty, of crops being burned because they could not be sold, while not far away whole peoples went hungry.

It was to tackle this problem of providing an adequate diet for all the Earth's inhabitants that the first conference of the United Nations was called to Hot Springs, U.S.A., in May, 1943, and the first world Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) was born. Now the permanent constitution of FAO has been approved by 22 nations. The General Staff for mankind's war on want is established, and it is expected that its opening conference will be held this autumn.

The FAO is not to be confused with Unrra, which is concerned with the immediate relief of liberated countries. The new food organisation will work as an advisory body, for it will have no powers to order food to be produced in any particular part of the world and transported elsewhere. But food production in all countries can be increased when farmers are given information on such matters as soil, science, fertilisers, pest control, advances in agricultural machinery, irrigation, seed selection, and market trends. Thus the FAO will become a world agricultural research and information centre; and experts

from all the United Nations are pledged to pool the results of their research which, through the FAO, will be distributed to food producers throughout the world.

The distribution of foodstuffs round the world is just as important as their production, and here FAO will help by giving to the authorities concerned vital information about the special needs of the various countries. Research will be made into such problems of food transport as methods of packing foodstuffs, their sterilisation and so on, and the latest knowledge on these matters given to food distributors everywhere.

The minimum yearly diet to be aimed at in post-war years has already been laid down by experts working with FAO. This yearly diet for one person is: 228 eggs, 225 quarts of fluid milk, 90 lbs of meat, fish, and poultry, 79 lbs of fruits with high vitamin C content, 79 lbs of leafy green and yellow vegetables, 119 lbs of other vegetables and fruits, 35 lbs of sugar, 50 lbs of fats, 229 lbs of grain products, 180 lbs of starchy tubers, roots, and fruits, and 24 lbs of mature seeds and nuts. FAO aims at giving every human being this minimum diet.

These are ambitious and lofty plans, and, as the framers of FAO's constitution have stressed, their success depends on joint action by all nations. The Commission which launched the new organisation said in its report: "Recent discoveries and developments have made it possible under certain conditions for all men and all nations to achieve freedom from hunger."

The road ahead of the world's peoples is bright indeed if only they can learn to tread it in true brotherhood.

The Epic of H M S Glowworm

A story that will live in naval history has been told by Lieut. Robert Ramsay, DSO, the only surviving officer of the 1345-ton destroyer Glowworm, on his return from captivity.

On April 8, 1940, the Glowworm was in the North Sea, one of an escort to the battle-cruiser Renown, when a wave washed one of her crew overboard. The Glowworm searched the stormy seas for the lost sailor, and so lost touch with her sister ships. The storm grew fiercer, and the Glowworm's gyro-compass failed. Then an unidentified destroyer opened fire on her, another destroyer (obviously German) hove in sight, and a battle against odds began.

The storm continued, the Glowworm's director control tower became flooded, and more men were washed overboard. A little later the 10,000-ton German cruiser Hipper loomed up on the horizon. Glowworm's skipper, Lieut-Commander Gerald Roope, R.N., knew then that his little ship was doomed; but he determined to inflict as much damage

as possible before his craft sank.

The Hipper poured 8-inch shells at the Glowworm, which became a blazing inferno. Still the gallant little destroyer continued to fire with her remaining guns. At last Lieut-Commander Roope decided to ram the German Goliath. There was a grinding crunch as the Glowworm's bows crumpled against the Hipper's armoured plating. Battered though Glowworm was, she drew away and, at 400 yards range, fired at the Hipper and scored a hit. By this time Glowworm was heeling over, and orders were given to abandon ship. Few men on board were unwounded, but all the injured were fitted with lifebelts. Shortly afterwards Glowworm capsized. Thirty-one survivors were picked up by the Germans, but Lieut-Commander Roope and over 100 of his crew were never seen again. The VC has been awarded to Lieut-Commander Roope for his exploit.

The giant Hipper had been considerably damaged and, later, had to be docked for repairs.

WHEN Lieutenant Karamjeet Singh Judge, Punjab Regiment, was at home in Kapurthala State in India, he told his father that he was determined to win the VC when he went into battle. The young man kept his promise—but it cost him his life.

The London Gazette, announcing his VC, described how in Burma Lieutenant Judge led his men in charge after charge against well-fortified Japanese positions defending Myingyan, until he died heroically while leading his men to attack the last Japanese position which was holding up the British advance.

Another Indian VC, announced at the same time, is Sepoy (Private) Ali Haidar of the 13th Frontier Force Rifles, who won his award in the fighting to cross the River Senio in Italy. Although severely wounded three times, he continued to attack and capture enemy positions.

HOUSE OF TREASURE

HUNGARIAN State treasures, valued at over £15,000,000, have been found by troops of the American Rainbow Division in the house of a parish priest at Mattsee, near Salzburg.

Just before the Russians attacked Budapest, many valuables were sent for safe keeping to this village. Two iron boxes found in a barn contained the silver regalia of the Hungarian royalty, and in the priest's home were found travelling-bags filled with diamonds, gold and silver articles, and coronation robes.

Among the treasures left in the priest's care was a wooden crate containing a sealed crystal and gold casket, and in the casket, still in good condition, was the hand of Saint Stephen, King of Hungary in the eleventh century.

World Meat Shortage

MR GEORGE PATTERSON, the Canadian executive officer of the combined food board of Britain, the United States, and Canada, stated recently that there is today a world shortage of more than 2,500,000 tons of meat, 1,800,000 tons of edible and inedible oils and fats, and 2,400,000 tons of sugar.

In order that liberated countries shall not face starvation as a result of the meat shortages—and also shipping difficulties in transporting it—Canada and the United States have had their yearly quota of meat cut to the same level as that of Britain, 71 pounds per head, which represents a cut of 14 pounds per head in Canada and 18 pounds per head in the U.S.

TOLL OF THE ROADS

THE toll of the roads goes on, with increasing fatalities. During May 125 child pedestrians and child cyclists were killed on the roads of Britain, an increase of 35 on the April figure. In the London area alone there were 21 child victims, three times more than the average for the previous twelve months.

The Ministry of Transport suggest longer hours of daylight and the return of more children from safe areas as the reasons for the increased fatalities.

WORLD NEWS REEL

THE Polish Provisional Government in Warsaw has been recognised by the British and U.S. Governments. Ambassadors will be sent there shortly.

The schoolroom at Rheims where the members of the German Supreme Command surrendered unconditionally to the Allies is to be preserved as a museum.

A Tokyo broadcast stated recently that five American warships had shelled Karafuto, the most northerly of the Japanese Islands, and the nearest point to Japan itself yet reached by Allied warships.

Norway's fishing fleets will be able to increase their operations now that two million gallons of petrol have arrived at Oslo and Stavanger.

When British troops entered Berlin recently they were given an enthusiastic welcome by Cossacks who, mounted on prancing horses, shouted their traditional slogans.

It is now possible again to telephone from Switzerland to Canada, the U.S., and Mexico.

GERMAN bishops are soon to hold a conference at the cathedral town of Fulda.

Large supplies of penicillin and other medicines have been taken to Prague by an American Army mission.

HOME NEWS REEL

LONDON's oldest voter in the General Election is believed to be Miss Margaret Watts, aged 104. She went to vote in company with 11 other ladies aged over 90.

Posted in Finchley at Christmas, 1930, a postcard was recently delivered at Hornsey, four miles away.

Lieut- General Sir Bernard Freyberg, VC, famous in the last war and this for his daring exploits, has been awarded a third bar to his DSO. He is now commanding the New Zealand forces in the Middle East.

When schoolboys picked up a grenade on the sand dunes at Aberavon, in South Wales, it exploded and killed three of them and injured one.

In the current year LCC teachers will receive £1,670,000 more in salaries under the new scale.

Between now and next June 72,000 motor-cycles are to be manufactured in Britain. Half of them are to be exported.

SIR IAN HAMILTON, at the age of 92, said he thoroughly enjoyed his recent 800-mile journey by air to Edinburgh and back.

Earl Granville, Governor of the Isle of Man, is to become the Governor of Northern Ireland.

For Feast Day services in the church at Wingrave, Buckinghamshire, new-mown hay was strewn in the aisles.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

SCOUTING is becoming very popular in Holland. One Scout troop in Enschede received applications from 200 boys to become new members, and another troop in Apeldoorn from nearly 250 boys.

As a mark of gratitude for camping facilities long enjoyed in some woods, Boy Scouts at Leicester have spent ten weekends on clearing and replanting three acres of the woodlands with 8000 trees; they will tend the new growth for five years.

Irak has ordered equipment for broadcasting, telegraph, and telephone services, from Britain.

According to a Japanese broadcast, Tokyo has been evacuated by its civil population, and only 200,000 persons remain in the city of which the population was formerly 7,000,000.

Three of Britain's newest aircraft carriers in the Pacific continued their operations after being hit by Japanese suicide planes.

At the invitation of President Truman, General de Gaulle will visit Washington in August.

Spain has removed the ban on the granting of licences for the import and export of goods from and to France.

At Zlin, Czecho-Slovakia, the production of shoes will be increased to eight and a half million pairs this winter.

While operating with U.S. naval forces in the South-West Pacific, one of Britain's newest class of submarine, H.M.S. Trenchant, has sunk a 10,000-ton Japanese cruiser.

Between September 1, 1939, and May 8 this year no fewer than 1554 merchant ships flying the U.S. flag were lost from war causes or accidents largely due to war conditions. Their tonnage was 6,277,077.

The Bishop of Leicester collected more than £2000 in one day for the fund for Christian reconstruction in Europe. He sat receiving money in the cathedral on Saturday morning and in the church of St John the Baptist during the afternoon.

The London Zoo has received from the Belgian Congo a Verreaux's eagle, a rare bird of which the Zoo has had no specimen for many years.

A sheepdog which helped in the rescue of four American airmen when they crashed in the Cheviots has been awarded the Dickin medal for gallantry by the Allied Forces' Mascot Club.

THE restoration of the stained-glass windows in Canterbury Cathedral will take six years.

Portsmouth aims at raising one million pounds for a war memorial which will include rebuilding two damaged hospitals and laying out a Garden of Remembrance near the Cathedral.

Sheffield N.F.S. have had their fire-engines equipped with radio sets to keep in touch with each other when called to fires. The sets are effective over a radius of 30 miles.

Rubber sponges are soon to be on the market again.

The degree of Master of Science of the University of Wales has been given to a former pit boy, Mr John Charles Webb, of Abertillery, Monmouthshire, for his research on silicosis, a miners' disease.

The largest Scout rally in Great Britain since 1938 was recently held in Glasgow, and was addressed by the Chief Scout, Lord Rowallan. Over 13,000 Scouts, Cubs, and members of the Guide Movement took part in a two-hour pageant.

A World Scout Jamboree will be held in France in 1947.

More than a hundred new Boys Brigade Companies have been formed in Britain this session.

The Children's Newspaper, July 21, 1945

END OF A ROGUE

WE hear often enough of rogue elephants, but not often of a rogue hippopotamus. However, a huge fellow has just been shot in Nigeria by a British official. For twelve years this hippo had terrorised the Cross River district, and had killed fifty people.

Hippopotamuses can be very dangerous indeed to the hunters who pursue them in boats. But normally they learn to avoid man, who values not only their thick hide and teeth for a number of uses, but esteems their fat, tongue, and feet as delicacies. Hippopotamuses are great destroyers of planted crops, and the havoc which a band of 20 or 30 can make in any cultivated area is immense.

Despite the Nigerian "rogue," the hippo is a tamable beast, unlike his neighbour the rhinoceros. There are many tame and friendly hippopotamuses in zoos.

OUT FROM THE BATTLE

ALL the stages through which a wounded man passes in his journey from the battlefield to hospital are dramatically illustrated at the Out From The Battle Exhibition which closes at Clarence House, London, on July 31.

This is the first public demonstration of how penicillin is saving the lives of our wounded men. The proceeds of the Exhibition are being divided between the Red Cross and the Army Benevolent Fund.

STAGE ENTENTE

IT is good news indeed that France and Britain are again making cultural exchanges. The theatre has been to the fore in real Entente Cordiale fashion recently, for to London came the famous Comédie Française, and to Paris went our own Old Vic Theatre Company to play at the theatre of the Comédie Française.

The Comédie Française is the national theatre of France, founded by Louis XIV in 1680. Its present constitution was given it by Napoleon. Its manager is appointed by the Ministry of Education and Fine Arts.

UPSIDE DOWN

A STAMP collector in Bombay was recently looking over his collection when he found a rare stamp which he has since sold for £375—the Indian four-annas with inverted head.

This stamp is an 1854 issue, with a red frame and a blue centre making two printing operations necessary. A few sheets were put into the second press upside down so that the centre, with Queen Victoria's head, was upside down. There are only about twenty copies of this error in existence.

The Matterhorn's Conqueror

THE "Whymper Week," which began on July 14 at Zermatt, on the Swiss side of the vast Matterhorn, marks the 80th anniversary of the first ascent of the mountain by Edward Whymper, the famous British mountaineer.

Of that triumphant yet tragic party of seven who accompanied Whymper on his conquest of the Matterhorn in 1865, not one remains. Four were killed on the way down from the summit when one fell on the ice and dragged three of his roped companions after him. Whymper tried to save them by looping the rope round a rock, but the

rope broke and the four plunged down a 4000-foot precipice. Three lived to tell the story, and the last of them, Peter Taugwalder, a Swiss who had acted as porter on the expedition, died in 1923 at the age of 81.

Edward Whymper himself died in 1911, but his name will never be forgotten in Switzerland. He was the most fearless of a small band of British Alpine pioneers of that time; yet his real profession was that of wood-engraver, and he only took to mountaineering because he went to Switzerland to make sketches for illustrations in a book about mountains.

A Kindergarten in Baghdad

UNDER the burning skies of Baghdad, ancient city of the Arabian Nights, a modern English kindergarten has been formed by the British Council. Every day since last January, 17 British and 23 Iraqi children under the age of seven have come for their play-lessons in a large hall surrounded by a cool verandah and a shady garden at the British Institute. Their teacher is Miss Olive Saywell, of the Bedford Froebel Training College.

All teaching is in English, and

in spite of language and religious differences the British and Arab children get along together famously. Equipping the school with all that a modern kindergarten needs at first presented difficulties, for there is a shortage of wool, paper, and cardboard in Iraq. Here the Department of Occupational Therapy of the Royal Hospital came to the rescue and made such articles as building bricks, single looms for weaving, insets, puzzles, and toys.

Great interest in the new

kindergarten has been aroused in Iraq, and when the Iraqi Minister of Education paid the school a visit he was particularly impressed with the climbing frame and ordered others like it to be made for his nation's schools. Throughout Iraq advice has been sought by educationists anxious to establish similar kindergartens.

Future generations of this Arab people will be grateful to Britain for introducing this enlightened form of education into their country.



The Lord Mayor and the Boats

Advice on navigation is being given by the Lord Mayor of London, who is head of a famous shipping line. With the Lady Mayoress he recently visited the Heritage Craft Schools at Chailey.

IPSWICH SWITCH

BRITAIN is gradually building up an efficient electricity system, thanks to the Central Electricity Board.

The latest enterprise is a new power station at Cliff Quay, Ipswich, the first pile of which has just been driven. This scheme will cost eight and a quarter million pounds and will supply emergency power to the Board's grid system covering south-east and east England, with two transmission lines to the West Country.

The architects have designed the new buildings to harmonise with the surrounding landscape.

RADIO RESOURCE

WHILE stationed on the lonely Admiralty Islands in the Pacific, Radio Technician E. J. McMahon, of Buffalo, United States, found himself without means of communication with the outside world. So he set to work; and, by using buttons as insulators, sewing thread for insulation, rusty blades, empty jars, nails, screws, and drawing-pins, eventually managed to build up a radio receiver that worked.

FIGHTING THE TROPICAL MOSQUITO

NOR far inland from that part of the Queensland coast of Australia facing the Great Barrier Reef is a town called Cairns. In a building there a vital battle has been waged for some time past. Experts at the research station are fighting that dread enemy, the anopheles mosquito, the bite of which lays low its victim with malaria.

At Cairns volunteers from the Australian Army allow themselves to be bitten by malarial mosquitoes brought from New Guinea, so that the experts may test the effects of drugs used to combat the disease. Brave men are these volunteers, and they know well the ravages of the mosquito among their comrades in tropical jungle and swamp.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

SLOWLY, but surely, the war machine is being unwound. After the restoration of the basic petrol ration comes the welcome news that buses and motor-coaches may operate for private parties and tours by road for a distance of seventy miles there and back (fifty miles in the case of London) without special authority.

Though this concession will probably only mean a limited supply of buses and coaches for private use until more drivers and conductors are available, it certainly means that many people without motor-cars will be able to take short road trips to the countryside while it is still looking its best.

Trees on War Service

OUR beloved woodlands, from which we derive such joy and pride, made a substantial contribution towards victory. This was shown at a forestry demonstration held during a rally of Young Farmers' Clubs of West Sussex held recently in Arundel Park.

Sussex chestnuts, it appears, provided trackways for Army vehicles when travelling over soft ground, and also timber bundles to enable tanks to cross anti-tank ditches. Larches, so graceful and slender, are also tough, and

THE BRITISH WAY

SPEAKING on American Independence Day, Sir John Anderson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, made reference to the Bretton Woods plan and reminded his audience of Britain's financial burdens and indebtedness. Of Britain's part in the future of the world, he said: "We are an essential element in the economy of Europe and of the wide area of the British Commonwealth, and the whole world will be poorer if we cannot play our part in the tasks of reconstruction; but two things at least I can promise you: we shall never appear anywhere in the guise of supplicants, and we shall not accept any obligation that we cannot see our way clearly to fulfil."

BEWARE OF THE PYLONS

TWELVE-year-old Shuan Sawyer of Sutton had a narrow escape from electrocution when he found in a recreation ground a loose wire hanging from an electric pylon and started to swing on it. The loose wire touched one of the main cables overhead which was transmitting electricity at the rate of several thousand volts. There was a flash and Shuan was flung to the ground, but he escaped with only bruises and shock.

THE MIRACLE

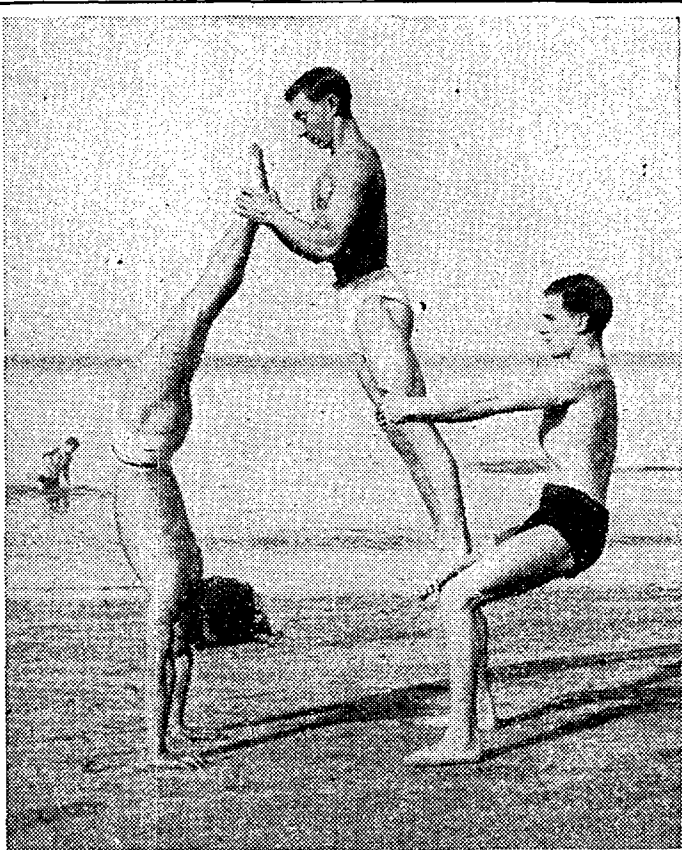
Returned South African prisoners-of-war, waiting at Hove to be repatriated to their homeland, were visited recently by Field-Marshal Smuts. We take these words from the great Empire statesman's address to the men.

WE have much to be grateful for. The British Empire stood alone, and by God's mercy it is one of the miracles of history that we pulled through victors and can look forward to a world of free men. To me it is the greatest miracle that has happened in all history. By all calculations we should have been down and out and entering into a slave world instead of being free men looking to the future in a free world. Out of these years of suffering and frustration some good has come. Something has been born in the hearts of men and women which will carry us into a better world in the years to come.

A DEEP WELL

THE drilling of the deepest well in the British Empire has just been completed in Alberta.

The well, sunk by the Imperial Oil Company, is 12,955 feet deep—nearly three times as deep as Ben Nevis is high. The well is called Imperial-Coalspur Number 1 and it is situated about 150 miles west of Edmonton. Drilling began in May, 1944, and has gone on continuously since at the average rate of 35 feet a day.



The Holiday Spirit

The glorious freedom of sands, sea, and sunshine in summer-time finds expression in this group of holiday-makers.

TAXIMAN AND AMBASSADOR TOO

MR HERBERT HODGE, that most entertaining London taximan, who has delighted us all with his broadcast descriptions of life in wartime London, has written a book, *A Cockney on Main Street*, which tells of his adventures in the USA during a lecture tour for the Ministry of Information.

Two previous autobiographies by this jolly motor-driver delighted public and critics alike. They were: *Cab, Sir, and It's Draughty in Front*. He is a lively playwright, too.

The Ministry of Information never made a better choice of an "ambassador" to the States than when they called Herbert Hodge away from the steering-wheel of his blitz-time bus—he changed from taxis to buses as his first war-job—and sent him across the Atlantic to show Americans what a typical stout-hearted Cockney worker looked like, how he talked, how he behaved.

Herbert Hodge was an outstanding success in America; so

much so that his visit was twice extended. He spoke chiefly to audiences of war-workers, and moved chiefly among road-transport men. But he addressed audiences of all kinds, and wherever he went he made his country and his great city liked and respected, though he does not say so in his new book. Others have brought in the report which does this good Londoner so much credit.

Americans like a man who is forthright and blunt, and in Herbert Hodge they found their man. He made them see how we were maintaining, in the face of the direst peril we had ever known, all those standards which had made our nation great—our courage, our efficiency in production of all kinds, the calm movement of necessary services, our sense of social justice, our sense of humour. He made them understand the spirit which kept us free and saved freedom for Europe when we stood alone.

Certainly this taximan-author is a useful ambassador.

An Empire Scourge

LEPROSY has been a scourge for many thousands of years, and there are, alas, still no fewer than two million lepers in the British Empire alone.

At the annual meeting of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association the other day, Sir Bernard Bourdillon spoke of twenty-one years' work in trying to cope with this gigantic problem, and of the work yet to be done. He said that leprosy was far more prevalent than had previously been thought.

In India, Sir Bernard stated, help had been given to the Army in the training of medical officers to diagnose and treat the disease. He referred also to the grant of £258,000 which had

been made from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund to cover costs of a scheme to fight leprosy in Nigeria. He had seen Nigerian leper villages which were a model of cleanliness and comfort. Dr Muir, medical secretary of the association, however, said that India and Nigeria were woefully short of institutional accommodation for cases of leprosy.

This dread disease is one of the Empire's terrible problems, and will demand all that we can give in medical skill, money, and research before it is fully under control. It is well that such a body as the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association exists to pursue its campaign of mercy.

ABSIE Closes Down

SHORTLY before D Day, a radio station started broadcasting to occupied Europe from a building within a stone's throw of London's Piccadilly Circus.

It was the American Broadcasting Station in Europe, generally known as ABSIE. Day by day, in conjunction with the BBC, this modest little station in the heart of London, under the direction of General Robert A. McClure, the head of the Psychological War Division of SHAEF, broadcast General Eisenhower's instructions to the people of occupied Europe, whose liberation had been promised.

Now this powerful radio instrument of war has finished its work. Mr Elmer Davies, director of the U S Office of War Information, speaking from New York at the closing down, said that the Voice of America would still be heard in Europe from other transmitters, but as a voice of peace and reconstruction. Mr Winant, the American Ambassador, speaking on the BBC, said: "This particular task is finished. May our combined experience continue to be useful in meeting the problems of the future."

An American, broadcasting on ABSIE for the last time, referred to England's capital city in affectionate terms; and he concluded: "No outsider could have lived in London during the war and not become convinced that here was one of the greatest cities and one of the greatest peoples in the world."

The ties of affection between the two countries have grown very close in war. May they remain so.

"OUT" AT LORD'S

SOMETHING happened at Lord's the other day which, as far as can be recalled, has not occurred in first-class cricket for thirty-eight years. G. O. Allen, a former England captain, playing for the South of England against the Royal Australian Air Force, was out—not for being bowled, stumped, caught, or run out, but because he "handled the ball."

Allen stopped a ball with his bat, and the ball rolled gently on to the stumps, but did not dislodge the bails. Allen then picked up the ball and threw it back to the bowler, who appealed, thinking (mistakenly) that the ball had removed the bails. The umpire gave Guppy Allen "out," not "bowled," but because the batsman had "handled the ball." (Needless to say, the bowler would not have appealed for that.)

Law 26 of the Rules of Cricket, which is 200 years old, reads: "Either batsman is out if he take up the ball while in play unless at the request of the other side—Handled the ball."

Once an appeal has been made, the umpire has no option but to say "Out" if, in his judgment, the batsman is out according to the Rules of Cricket, irrespective of the reason for the bowler's appeal.

It was hard luck on Allen, whom the RAAF men tried to persuade to resume his innings. But Allen declined, like the good cricketer and sportsman he is.

The EDITOR'S TABLE

THE GOAL

IT has been a long, long road to Berlin, but at last British troops are there, holding a sector of Germany's capital side by side with the other Allies.

In the last war, as in this, countless enthusiastic young soldiers setting out for service overseas chalked on their vehicles the slogan *To Berlin*. It has taken almost 31 years to complete the journey; and none will be more glad than the men of that earlier war that the honour of being the first British troops to accomplish what they set out to do so long ago fell to the famous Desert Rats, the Seventh Armoured Division. For no soldiers have seen more fighting since 1939 than the Desert Rats, who have won victory after victory since El Alamein, on the way to their goal across 3000 miles of Africa and Europe.

Extending Village Life

MORE than one speaker of late has urged an extension of Britain's village life at the expense of the overcrowded towns and cities, so that villages may become sizeable communities where social and cultural life can be made more pleasant.

The spreading-out of the population of these islands is an overdue necessity. But it will never be possible unless and until industry is well distributed, and satisfactory transport has been provided. Then, and not until then, can the town and country planners put their blueprints effectively into action. The Distribution of Industry Act promises something in the desired direction.

It is a matter for national planning. Nothing less will serve.

JUST AN IDEA

As Cervantes wrote, *There is a great distance between said and done.*

CARRY ON

WITHIN US

JUSTICE is like the Kingdom of God; it is not without us as a fact, it is within us as a great yearning.

George Eliot

Chorus of Praise

HARK! how the cheerful birds do chant their lays,
The carol of love's praise.
The merry lark her matins sings aloft,
The thrush replies; the mavis descant plays;
The ousel shrills; the redbreast warbles soft;
So goodly all agree with sweet consent,
To this day's merriment.

Edmund Spenser

NOBLE SCARS

WHAT matters a scar or two if 'tis got in helping a friend in ill fortune.

Thackeray

MAKING TEACHI

IN a recent report the LCC Education Committee state that they intend to make their teaching service attractive to teachers of the best quality, and, as far as possible, to deal even-handedly, justice to teachers already in the service. With regard to head teachers, they propose to fill these positions by competition within the service for the primary schools and by open competition for the secondary schools.

Thus Britain's largest local

An American

FURTHER evidence of the interest which friends across the sea are taking in this country, has been provided by Mr James Fitzpatrick, an American producer of travelogues, now in England, who has said that, as the result of a recent poll taken in America, seventy per cent of the voters chose England as the place they want to visit first.

Sponsored by our Ministry of Information Mr Fitzpatrick is here to make, for Warner Brothers, six travel films of Britain, including one of Stratford-on-Avon, and another showing the River Thames from its source in the Cotswolds to its

Under the E

SOME people have a way with snakes. Most people get out of their way.

PETER WA

ENGLISH weather has its ups and downs. When the rain comes down umbrellas go up.

To obtain a photograph, a lady crawled to within a few yards of a lion. And got a snap.



AN adder soon gets to know you, says a boy who collects them. And adds you to its list of acquaintances.

If day are fan

Prelude o

SOMETIMES gleams upon our sight,
Through present Wrong, the eternal Right;
And step by step, since time began,
We see the steady gain of man.

That all of good the past have had
Remains to make our own time glad,
Our common, daily life divine,
And every land a Palestine.

THE WAY

A TUTOR should not be continually thundering instruction into the ears of his pupil as if he were pouring it through a funnel. But, after having put the lad, like a young horse, on a trot, before him, to observe his paces, and see what he is able to perform, should, according to

NG ATTRACTIVE

education authority intends to make the new Education Act a living reality, for success depends very largely upon having teachers of really good quality, in sufficient numbers, and working in contented conditions. Perhaps most important of all is the selection of the head teachers, for so much depends on the man or woman at the top.

Let us hope that all our educational bodies are similarly alive to the need for providing a first-class teaching service.

Films Britain

estuary. The commentaries will be in five languages.

Such an enterprise as Mr Fitzpatrick has undertaken is much more than a compliment to Britain. It will help to foster understanding, for the better the nations get to know each other the better it will be for the world.

Shadow Over Japan

A PARTIAL eclipse of the Sun was recently observed by most people in Europe, in North America, North Africa, and parts of Western Asia; and before very long the whole world will witness the total eclipse of the Rising Sun.

Editor's Table

EVERYONE is going to the seaside. Except those who are already there.

A MAN says his photograph was a speaking likeness. Wonder what it said.

SOME people are more liable to bee stings than others. Especially those who go near bees.

A DOCTOR says he has had a good practice for years. Time he knew his job.

f the Past

Through the harsh noises of our day
A low, sweet prelude finds its way;
Through clouds of doubt, and
creeds of fear,
A light is breaking calm and clear.

Henceforth my soul shall sigh
no more
For olden time and holier shore;
God's love and blessing, then and
there,
And now and here and every-
where.
J. G. Whittier.

TO TEACH

the extent of his capacity, induce him to taste, to distinguish, and to find out things for himself; sometimes opening the way, at other times leaving it for him to open; and by abating or increasing his own pace, accommodate his precepts to the capacity of his pupil.

Montaigne

The Will and the Way

WHERE there is good will, the good way will be found in due course.

Those words, spoken by Field-Marshal Jan Smuts the other day in connection with the Charter of the United Nations, should be carefully recorded, and repeated through all time.

In every sphere of human effort nothing really succeeds unless there is the will to do, and the will is good will, which will surely find the good way. Whether it be in world affairs, in national life, or in personal relationships, the spirit of good will alone lights the way to human happiness and well-being.

THE HANDSHAKE

A MARK of all truly great men is sympathy and understanding. When Mr Churchill recently visited Huddersfield a man put out his hand, and the Prime Minister smiled and explained that he was tired and would have no hand left if he shook hands with everybody during his tour. The man stood mute, still with his hand outstretched. Mr Churchill seemed annoyed—for a moment. The man's friend murmured "He is blind," and the Prime Minister immediately clasped the outstretched hand in a hearty grip.

America's Lead

How earnest America is about playing her full part in building a prosperous future for humanity was again shown recently when President Truman signed the Act extending the American reciprocal trade agreements for three years, thus giving the U.S. Administration power to reduce tariffs on goods imported into America by a further 50 per cent—if other nations follow America's lead.

This Act is designed, said the President, "to place America squarely behind the principles of international co-operation."

This is a most encouraging step forward, for the removal of artificial tariff barriers is essential for the welfare of the world.

True Worth of Conscience

HE that loses his conscience has nothing left that is worth keeping. Therefore be sure you look to that. And in the next place look to your health; and if you have it praise God and value it next to a good conscience, for health is the second blessing that we mortals are capable of, a blessing that money cannot buy; therefore value it, and be thankful for it.

Isaiah Walton

SUMMER DAYS

HIGH on the topmost hill
The fresh winds billow the
heather.

Down by the stream wild bees
Drone round the willow's feather.
Swift through the arching sky
Clouds pack soft fleece together,
And the meadow is filled with
perfumed hay,

O God be thanked for the
weather! Herbert Stoneley

Virile Seeds

IT was officially estimated before the war that weeds cost agriculture in Great Britain the sum of 16 million pounds a year. These parasites of the fields and gardens possess immense vitality: without it they could not have survived centuries of human effort to exterminate them.

In London and other blitzed centres we have ample evidence of the rapid growth of weeds, the wind or other agencies having deposited their seeds on the vacant sites. But not all the weeds we see on bomb-sites have sprung from these causes. Weed-seeds, unsuspected and unimagined, have underlain our houses and shops, sleeping and awaiting their chance.

Last summer a number of houses went down at West Norwood, a London suburb, before a flying bomb. In order to clear away the rubble so that huts might be installed for the dispossessed householders, a bulldozer was called upon for service. This machine not only pushed the mounds of rubble aside, but it disturbed ground that had lain at rest since the foundations of the houses were laid. Now the site presents an extraordinary spectacle.

The Farmer's Saying

It is covered with charlock, that weed, two feet high, with bristly stems and leaves and yellow flowers which belongs to the cornfields and the far countryside. How came this wheatfield-crop on a bombed London area? Botanists say that the weed flourished in the neighbourhood when open land was converted into housing sites. Farmers have a saying as regards charlock, "one year's seeding means five years' weeding," for the seeds are known to lie dormant for that length of time and then germinate when conditions are favourable.

But, say the botanists, these West Norwood charlock seeds must have lain dormant for thirty or forty years, their energy unimpaired, ready for an opportunity to germinate such as the bulldozer has effected. No wonder the costs of weeding are constant. Every July some 1400 species of weeds flower in our fields; if they are allowed to drop their seeds there is work for more than one season before the resultant plants can be eradicated.

SILK HATS AND STEEPLE HATS

THE decline in the silk hat industry has led to the passing of the 100-year-old Silk Hatters Fur Trade Union, whose headquarters were in the little town of Denton, in Lancashire.

So greatly has the industry declined that it would be hard to find in Denton six men who can make silk hats. But the town has one unique worker in Mr Tom Hardy, who makes wonderful Welsh steeple hats of all sizes for Welsh dolls, and also the hats worn at the famous Eisteddfods. He makes them entirely by hand, and spends much time and patience on them, covering each one with the real silk fur from old toppers.

To visit Mr Hardy and watch him at work is both a surprise and a pleasure.

A SHAPER OF DEMOCRACY

JULY 17 marks the 100th anniversary of the death of Charles, second Earl Grey, the Prime Minister who succeeded, after 40 years of effort, in securing our first Parliamentary Reform Act, steering the British nation securely on the high-road to government of the people by the people.

Our land is acclaimed the cradle of freedom, our Parliament the mother of all such assemblies; had it not been for Grey and the men he inspired these proud titles might long have remained unwarranted. Son of a brilliant soldier, Charles Grey had his home in Northumberland, where he lived in great happiness, deploring the time that duty compelled him to pass in London. He was the father of 15 children, all of whom called him by his Christian name, and whose eager minds caused them to be in constant debate, so that their drawing-room resembled a miniature parliament.

Charles Grey was a man who, throughout his life, devoted himself to the extinction of corruption in public life, and to winning political rights for those less fortunate than himself. The Britain into which he was born in 1764 was ruled by a few, largely for their own selfish ends and ambitions. Many of the constituencies in which electors have recently been freely voting belonged to noblemen and other wealthy persons, who bought and sold them in the same way as shooting or fishing rights.

The Duke of Norfolk owned 11 constituencies, Lord Lonsdale 9, the Duke of Rutland 6, and so on. Neither Manchester, Leeds, nor Birmingham could send a member to Parliament, but Old Sarum, with only one inhabitant, returned two MPs. Revenue officers, creatures of the Crown, swayed the results of 70 seats, and they, like the nominees of the owners of seats, voted as their masters bade them. The

general body of the nation had absolutely no voice in the choice of members, nor in the laws made.

Charles Grey in the Commons, and afterwards as Earl Grey in the House of Lords, strove unwearyingly for reform. A brilliant orator and debater, he refrained from fomenting the anger of the nation denied the rights it sought. His moderation in a critical hour preserved us from dreadful strife. Backed by Lord John Russell, Lord Palmerston, and the Whig Party, he kept steadily to constitutional methods, to the reform of Parliament by Parliament itself.

Called to the Premiership in 1830, he saw his Bill for reform defeated, so resigned. Summoned a second time to office, he accepted only on the promise of William the Fourth to create sufficient peers, if necessary, to secure a majority for a new Bill in the House of Lords. (Grey afterwards said that he would never have used this power; the threat sufficed.) In 1832 the Parliamentary Reform Bill became law, abolishing the rotten boroughs, as they were called, enfranchising important centres of population, and granting the vote to great numbers of people previously voteless.

Three further Acts were necessary to give us the ballot, votes for women, and votes for all adults, but it was Earl Grey's Act in 1832 which established the principle that the nation shall be master in its own house. For this alone his name is secure in our parliamentary annals for ever more.

A Home of Opera

LA SCALA Opera House in Milan is famous throughout the whole civilised world. Established in 1778, on the site of the church of Santa Maria della Scala, this magnificent home of Italian opera used to seat 3600 persons, but was badly damaged by bombing during the war. Rebuilding operations, however, are proceeding rapidly, the Allies having contributed twenty million lire in recognition of its international value.

La Scala's pre-war musical director was the renowned

Signor Toscanini, and he hopes to wield his baton there once again when the Opera House is reopened on, it is hoped, December 26 next. Toscanini himself has given a million lire towards the cost of restoring his beloved theatre.

No fewer than fifty thousand stage costumes were removed to safety during the last stages of the war in Italy. These will return for the dressing of productions when La Scala, even more magnificent, once again delights its music-loving audiences.



THIS ENGLAND

The Thames at Westminster from the verandah of St Thomas's Hospital

URALS—LAND OF GOLD

A book published last year under the title of Urals, The Land of Gold, is of rather an unusual character. It had many authors—schoolchildren and young pioneers of the Soviet Union, who wrote all the features, stories, and poems, and drew all the illustrations. One young composer even wrote music for it.

The idea of this collective book first came to Sverdlovsk school-children in January, 1940. How splendid it would be, they thought, to give the legends and folk tales of the Urals, a description of its life and natural riches, its Nature, the people who live in its mountains and in its forests—in fact, about everybody and everything belonging to the Urals.

The news that Sverdlovsk children were planning to write a book quickly spread through the area—to a million other pupils in 6000 other schools. The idea caught on, and in a short time the editors were flooded with letters from children inquiring what subjects they should write about, or sending short descriptions of events in their neighbourhood—a bear hunt, or the installation of hydraulic machinery in a gold-field. As many as 200 letters a day would arrive, some coming over 60 miles by deer sleigh before reaching the mail van. One letter, despatched by young naturalists of a certain Urals town, was brought by carrier pigeon.

But the children not only wrote, they travelled all over the Urals in search of material; for instance, in order to write about the high-grade steel smelted in the Urals, famous all over the world, 14-year-old Volodya Galev of Sverdlovsk went to Zlatoust in the south Urals and brought back enough material to write a real adventure story, which he called *The Secret of the Sword*.

Special tourist groups were formed of young historians, folklore students, geologists, and artists. They penetrated into the grim tundra of the north, they sailed down deep rivers on rafts, explored abandoned caves;

and from all these trips and excursions they returned with voluminous notes.

Thus, page by page, a book was compiled. It is divided into seven sections. Following the first section on ancient folk-lore come *The Grey Urals*, *Our Region*, *The Wealth of the Mountains*, *Interesting Life*, *In the Land of Adventure*, *Following Wild Beasts' Trails*. There is also an original introduction in the form of childhood reminiscences sent to the children of the Urals by the Danish writer, Martin Andersen Nexø, with whom they carried on a lively correspondence.

It is a book which will have countless readers, and it is interesting to record that so happy were the young authors in its making that when they all met in the Young Pioneers' Camp in the Summer of 1941 they decided to set up a monument to it. Near the camp they found a nameless hill, and at its summit they built a mound of stones in which they hid a paper stating that the hill in future would bear the name of Knigurr, a word made up of the initials of Russian words signifying Books of the Urals Children. This name is registered by the Urals map department.

Fair Isle Hostel

THE Admiralty have recently given permission for all their huts on Fair Isle, the little island midway between the Orkneys and Shetlands, to be handed over to Mr George Waterston, the Edinburgh ornithologist.

Mr Waterston now hopes to open a hostel for the benefit of the nature students who are using the island for the purpose of plotting bird-movements and marking birds so that they can be traced in their journeys.

Lincoln's Norfolk Ancestors

SWANTON MORLEY is a Norfolk village with its own little niche in American history, for in its parish registers are the names of Richard Lincoln and his family, ancestors of the great Abraham Lincoln.

For many years Colonel Leslie, of Brancaster, near Swanton Morley, has believed that an overgrown, weedy piece of ground on a corner of the narrow road between Dereham and Swanton was the site of the Lincoln home. A careful examination of large maps has shown that on this site in the seventeenth century a Richard Lincoln had a house. The site is now a hen run, but under a gift from Colonel Leslie the land will be under the care of the National Trust.

Richard Lincoln's Will

The story behind this waste piece of ground reveals an important link between the English-speaking peoples. At the Public Record Office Colonel Leslie discovered the will of one Richard Lincoln, who made it in 1615. His father was a well-to-do yeoman, and his will directly affected the course of American history. By this will the Swanton lands were left to his son Henry, and his other son—Edward—was thereby disinherited, and left Swanton to seek his fortunes in Norwich. There he apprenticed his son Samuel to a weaver, who, emigrating to America in 1637, took Samuel with him. This Samuel Lincoln was a direct forerunner of the great President.

The lands in Swanton remained in the hands of the Lincolns through the centuries. The last of them was living in Swanton up to 1914, and his name is on the village war memorial. Meanwhile, across the Atlantic, the descendants of Samuel Lincoln survived the struggle for existence in the rough and open spaces of Virginia, joined in the westward push into the great plains of Kentucky, and then marched into the forefront of American history.

But for this will, made long ago at Swanton Morley, Abraham Lincoln might have grown up a Norfolk farm-boy and have played his part in English history. This little plot of earth in Norfolk holds much of the romance of history, and on it, no doubt, there will rise a fitting memorial for the great man whose ancestors had their roots in the Norfolk soil.

FOR YOUNG SHEFFIELD

To help to create alert and critical cinema audiences in Sheffield, city youth clubs are to start film discussion groups. Boys and girls who have hitherto been content to see any film that comes to the local cinema will thus be encouraged to take an intelligent interest in films, and will collect film reviews and record their own opinions.

Another drive is to be launched in the city's clubs to develop an international outlook among its young people. Groups will study life and conditions abroad with the help of books, speakers, and photographic exhibitions.

TWO GIANT SUNS

This week the C N Astronomer has something to tell us about the wonders of two bright stars, Antares and Arcturus, which may be seen in the southern sky as soon as the twilight deepens.

ANTARES and Arcturus cannot be mistaken, because each is much the brightest star in its area. Moreover, while Arcturus is yellowish in tint Antares is reddish and will be found very low down to the right of due south. With the aid of the star-map Antares should be readily identified, as he appears singularly situated relative to the other chief stars of Scorpio, the celestial Scorpion.

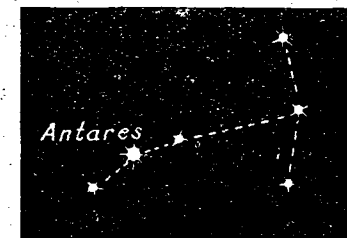
Arcturus is much higher in the sky, due south-west and almost midway between the horizon and overhead as soon as the sky is dark, when the golden hue of Arcturus becomes obvious; his steady light resembles that of a planet. Arcturus is much nearer to us than Antares, being about 41 light-years' journey away, whereas Antares is about 365 light-years' distant. This accounts for the fact that, though Antares is much the larger sun, Arcturus appears the brighter, and was one of the first stars to be measured by the marvellous interferometer appliance. Then it was found that Arcturus possessed the immense diameter of nearly 23 million miles, of about 27 times greater than our Sun, and so belonged to the "giant" class of suns.

The surface temperature of Arcturus is not so hot as that of our Sun, being about 4200 degrees centigrade compared with an average of 6000 degrees for our Sun; yet Arcturus pours out about 100 times more light and heat than does our Sun, and from a vast surface about 180 times greater. But this "surface" of Arcturus is only composed of very rarefied fire-mist, as we might say. In fact, the whole of this immense sun, which has a volume some 48,000 times greater than our Sun, has only about eight times more material in it, by weight.

Antares, a much greater "giant" than Arcturus, is also vastly different in other ways, the difference in tint as seen by the naked-eye being evidence of this. Antares has not so hot a surface as Arcturus, being about 3100 degrees centigrade, yet it radiates the colossal average of 3400 times more light

than our Sun and, therefore, 34 times more than Arcturus. This is because of the immensity of Antares which, if it were as near as our Sun, would cover most of the sky at noonday. But, of course, our world could not exist as we know it under these conditions, for this colossal sun, believed to reach the greatest dimensions of any known, is subject to terrific outbursts of energy which cause it to expand from a diameter of about 285 million miles to about 389 million miles.

So, from being about 330 times wider than our Sun, Antares



How to find Antares

expands to a diameter 450 times greater. All this has been found out from interferometer measurements. Antares is actually a colossal sphere of whirling fire-mist, much more rarefied than is the case with Arcturus; the gaseous elements expanding and then contracting in fiery tumult and the whole rotating at terrific speed. But so extremely rarefied and light is this colossal mass that it contains no more than about 30 times as much material, by weight, as our Sun.

A very much smaller "companion" sun (as they are called) appears very close to Antares and may possibly revolve round it. It is apparently of seventh magnitude, and is itself a great sun nearly twice the diameter of ours and radiating about 22 times more light. Long before this greenish sun was discovered a green flash or sparkle was perceptible in the light of Antares, and on one rare occasion in 1856, when Antares was occulted by the Moon, this green sun was seen, telescopically, to emerge from behind the dark edge of the Moon before the fiery red Antares appeared.

G. F. M.

The Proms Again

WELCOME the Proms! In this summer of victory the BBC has organised the 51st season of the Henry Wood Promenade Concerts, and they are due to begin at the Royal Albert Hall, Saturday, July 21.

It is hard to picture the Proms without Sir Henry Wood—he will be sorely missed. But two great orchestras—the London Symphony and the BBC Symphony—conducted by Sir Adrian Boult, Basil Cameron, and their associate, Constant Lambert, will see to it, in company with singers, soloists, and enthusiastic audiences, that this season will be as memorable as he would have wished.

The Proms are a national institution, and the eight-week feast of music which marks the beginning of their second half-century is worthy of their tradition.

Great works by great masters of music, of course, take pride of place in the programmes, with Fridays devoted to Beethoven, as of yore; but there is the usual offering of new fare, including first performances of works by British composers, including a *Fantasia* on Soviet Themes by Alan Bush, *Maytime* by Thomas Dunhill, *September Dusk* by David Moule Evans, and a *Festival March* by Ian Whyte.

The season ends on Saturday, September 15, with Sir Adrian Boult conducting Elgar's famous *March Pomp and Circumstance* Number 1. Just before this music-lovers will hear Sir Henry Wood's *Fantasia* on British Sea-Songs, and in their warm-hearted applause will pay homage to the memory of its composer, the Great Man of the Proms.

BEDTIME

BROWNIE BATTLES

OF pillow-fights the Brownies know
Not anything at all.
They have no pillows and their beds
Are made 'mong grasses tall,
But, perched astride a swaying twig,
They meet with clash and rattle,
Like knights of old, for they enjoy
A dandelion battle!

MARY WATERS HER FLOWERS



CORNER

The Crafty Cat

A CAT, jumping at a fly by an open window, missed it and fell through on to the ground outside.

There she lay dazed for a moment or two, when a kind bullfinch, who had seen what had happened, came up and sympathised with her.

"Poor puss!" he said. "I do hope you have not broken any bones."

"No," replied the bad cat, who had now recovered from the shock, "it was certainly a long leap to take for a mere fly, but it was worth the trouble for a bullfinch."

And she sprang at the bird and caught it.

"Oh, dear," cried the bullfinch, "I should never have trusted one who by her actions showed her bad nature."

Actions speak louder than words.

PRAYER

GENTLE Shepherd, make
Thy child
Pure and gentle as the dew;
Keep my spirit undefiled,
Waking, sleeping, kind and true.
Amen

The Saga of the Submarines

THE necessity of keeping from the enemy all suspicion of the activities of our submarines has meant that the exploits of "the most silent branch of the Silent Service" could hardly be hinted at during the war with Germany.

Now the story of the heroic deeds of our submarine men has at last been told in His Majesty's Submarines, published by the Stationery Office, at ninepence.

Sometimes we wondered how men could be persuaded to enter this hazardous service, spending their days below the seas, hunting and being hunted, living in a cramped space "closely packed with a bewildering mass of pipes, valves, gauges, instruments, electric cables, so that every inch serves a purpose," as this official account describes the interior of a submarine; and waiting many times in silence for those metallic clangs above and around them of the exploding depth charges dropped by the enemy ships hunting them on the surface—and sometimes hearing the "submariner's most dreaded sound, the spurt of invading water and the hiss of escaping air" when some part of the vessel has been damaged.

Yet, in spite of this eerie and perilous existence, it is very seldom that a sailor trained to submarine work requests to be returned to surface ships.

At the very beginning of the war our under-water fighters went into action, and ever since have been hard at work striking frequent decisive blows at the enemy, as in the crippling of Axis supplies by sea to North Africa which contributed largely towards the defeat of the enemy there in 1943. Our submarines in the Mediterranean sank altogether 1,335,000 tons of enemy shipping. They played a grand part, too, in relieving the besieged island of Malta by taking vital supplies to the island in what the submarine men among themselves called the "Magic Carpet Service to Malta"; petrol for Malta's planes, kerosene for cooking, shells for the guns, and other badly-needed stores were smuggled into the island under the noses of the ever-watchful German airmen. But a price had to be paid for all this heroic work, and 41 of our submarines lie for ever below the dazzling blue surface of the Mediterranean.

Many of our intrepid submariners' adventures were in the

direct tradition of Drake, as when one of our most famous submarine commanders, Lieutenant-Commander Wanklyn, V.C., in the dusk of a May evening of 1941 drove his submarine right into the middle of an enemy flotilla so as to get a better aim at a troopship among them, and, risking collisions with the hostile destroyers, sank the troopship, and then succeeded in getting his submarine, the Upholder, safely away amid the storm of depth charges dropped by the destroyers. Altogether Wanklyn in the Upholder sank 97,000 tons of enemy supply ships, three U-boats, and a destroyer, before that tragic time when the Upholder did not return to Malta and was never heard of again.

Another submarine V.C. is Commander A. C. C. Miers, who, in March, 1942, boldly steered his submarine Torbay into the enemy harbour at Corfu and remained there for 17 hours—part of the time during the night on the surface while recharging the submarine's batteries—and, submerging at daybreak, attacked and sank two enemy ships in broad daylight and then escaped from the harbour.

The description of these and other thrilling adventures in this well-illustrated book, His Majesty's Submarines, is a small but worthy tribute to the courage and self-sacrifice of men for whose deeds there was no public recognition at the time they performed them. It is an expression of the nation's gratitude to her submarine sailors—and of homage to those of them who have passed on.

A GREAT AUSTRALIAN

THE British Empire, and indeed the Cause of International Co-operation, have lost a staunch friend in the untimely death of the Right Honourable John Curtin. Prime Minister of Australia since October, 1941.

"Honest John," respected by all the United Nations' statesmen for his complete sincerity, was Australia's great war leader, and it may be said of him that he died of overwork for the Allied cause, for he was only 60 when he passed away on July 5. John Curtin was a man of peace. All his life he had struggled against the idea of force in international affairs. Yet in the time of Australia's gravest danger, in February, 1942, when a Japanese invasion seemed only a matter of days, it was he who ordered a complete mobilisation of all the Dominion's resources and thereafter unswervingly directed the defence of his Homeland.

He was strongly in favour of closer union between the nations of the British Empire, and he wanted an Imperial Council with a permanent secretariat. When in 1944 he came to London for the meeting of the Dominions Premiers, he was attending the sort of conference he had always advocated.

John Curtin's name will be venerated down the centuries by future generations of Australians.

A WORTHY MEMORIAL

"A LIFELONG dream come true" is the description applied by Mr Charles Jarman, secretary of the National Union of Seamen, to Springbok, the proposed memorial village in Surrey to which South Africa is so generously contributing as a tribute to the men of the Merchant Navy who gave their lives to keep open the sea lanes to Britain.

The aim of this new village community is to provide a haven for the older men who saw service under the "Red Duster," and fresh hope for the younger, disabled men. It is hoped, ultimately, that about 300 people will find happiness there.

Grouped round a charming mansion on the 100-acre Sachel Court estate, near Alford, in the woods of Surrey, Springbok village will have cottages for retired seafarers and their wives, a vocational training centre for their junior disabled colleagues, a nursery school for the children, and a model farm, which it is hoped will in time enable the community to become self-supporting. In addition there will be an infirmary, a factory, showroom, power-house, stores, workshops, community building, swimming pool, and horticultural training unit.

Every recreational facility will be provided, and special attention will be paid to finding a congenial occupation for the heroes who can no longer "go down to the sea in ships." Those not suited to farming—the predominant local work—will be offered the choice of light trades.

Of the estimated total cost of £145,000, no less than £50,000 has already been received, and it is hoped that the first inhabitants will be in residence by next Christmas. Springbok, it is understood, is to be only one of a number of similar community centres to be established by international welfare organisations.

Toys Again

MANY of the younger children today do not know what it means to possess real toys of the sort produced by the skilled workmanship of peacetime toy factories. They have known little else than the miserable, clumsily made, and usually expensive wooden affairs which were offered last Christmas.

Next Christmas, however, Santa Claus will have a well-laden bag, for the Board of Trade has decided to lift the ban on making and selling metal toys. This means that about £15,000 of toys that shops had in stock but were not allowed to sell will be for sale. A few of these toys that have been in stock may be out-of-date, such as soldiers on horseback. Manufacturers will now produce toy soldiers riding in jeeps.

In metal farmyard models, too, there will be the latest types of farm machinery and figures of Landgirls. Scale models, correct in every detail, of Spitfires, Fortresses, and Lancasters will delight many a young heart.

Toy manufacturers have decided that London children shall have a large proportion of their output next Christmas, for young London has lost many of its possessions in bombings.

Seven Centuries Old

WESTMINSTER ABBEY, our shrine of shrines, and still the Mecca of all who visit London, is at last beginning to recover from the upheavals and removals caused by the war.

It is therefore timely to recall that just seven centuries ago a greater upheaval was beginning to shape the Westminster Abbey we know, replacing the Abbey of the Confessor and his Norman successors.

It was Henry the Third who began that vast undertaking. Love and veneration of Edward the Confessor prompted him, his aim being a building worthier of the great Saxon king. Henry proceeded to collect a vast fund, and in 1245 began the pulling down of the old Abbey and the beginning of the new.

Terrible was the disorder, miserable the lives of the monks, with their homes upset, their services conducted in the remnant of the ancient shrine which day by day grew smaller and smaller before their eyes. The King gave his whole heart and much of other people's wealth, in addition to his own, in carrying on the work. Once he had to pawn the jewels contributed for the decoration of the new Abbey; these were redeemed, but

poverty drove him later to pledge them a second time, and even to sell some of them in order to raise funds for his building.

The work lasted generations beyond the era of our Third Henry, but 1245 saw the beginning of it all, and we who visit the glorious Abbey today witness the completion of the seventh century of its existence as the successor of the dark Norman church that preceded it.

STILL IN ACTION

IT is now revealed that the cruiser HMS Argonaut, claimed by the Germans to have been sunk by a U-boat in the spring of 1943, was saved by the superb seamanship of her commander. One torpedo blew off the bows, another carried away the stern, the rudder, and two of the four propellers, but she was able to steer at four knots across the Atlantic to the Philadelphia naval yard, where she was one-third rebuilt, to see service again—in the Pacific.

See how your Savings grow!

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10TH YEAR	20/6	
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8TH "	19/-	
7TH "	18/6	
6TH "	18/-	
5TH "	17/6	
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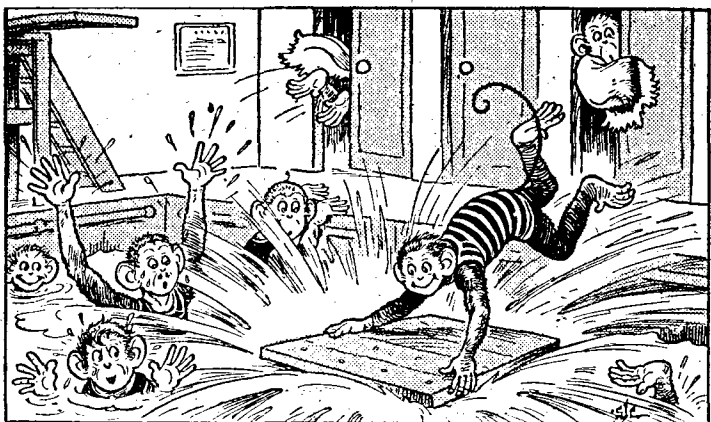


CHECK THAT COUGH!

Check that troublesome cough with a dose of soothing 'Pineate' Honey Cough-Syrup—end the misery and distress caused by choking coughing spasms and sore, inflamed throat and nasal passages. 'Pineate' Honey Cough-Syrup is delicious to take—only half a teaspoonful will give immediate relief. 1/9 per bottle, including Purchase Tax.

'Pineate'
HONEY COUGH-SYRUP

Jacko the Dry Diver



JACKO is a chilly mortal, and when he visited the swimming baths with Brother Adolphus, he thought he had never seen such cold-looking water. He decided that rafting would be more fun than swimming and, taking the floorboard from his cubicle, he launched his raft with great dash. But the splash annoyed Brother Adolphus and very soon the amateur raftsman was overboard.

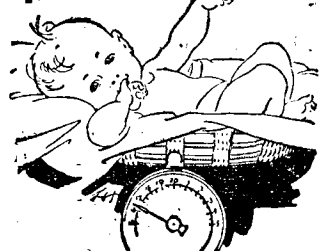
POIGNANT

"Why do you bring this to me?" thundered the weary editor, thrusting the MS back. "Because," replied the poet sadly, "I have no stamp."

Alphabetical Puzzle

ALL these can be expressed by one letter. What are they?
A part of the body. Famous gardens. A great quantity of water. An insect. A vegetable. A measure. An exclamation. A bird. A drink. A question. Yourself.
Answer next week

HEALTHY GAINS for



YOUR BABY

Deep, peaceful, unbroken sleep is vital to infant growth. When baby is cross, fretful, sleepless, those weekly ounces of gain do not appear on the scales. Mother take care! Look to baby's digestion.

The minute you see baby feverish, constipated, suffering with wind, just give a little 'Milk of Magnesia' brand antacid. Soon comes pleasant relief. 'Milk of Magnesia' safely and surely sweetens the sour little stomach, regulates the tiny bowels, soothes and calms baby. And with sourness and sickness gone, with bowel movements regular, you are overjoyed to see restful, healthy sleep again. Baby makes those steady gains in weight that are the delight of every Mother. Doctors and Nurses recommend 'Milk of Magnesia' as a safe antacid and gentle laxative for babies. Be careful, Mother, remember to ask for 'MILK of Magnesia' which is the registered trade mark of Phillips' preparation of magnesia.

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Nature's Night Lights. "Glow-worms!" exclaimed Don excitedly, pointing to the grassy bank, where several tiny lights were shining in the darkness.

Farmer Gray paused, and both he and Don bent down for a closer inspection.

"Isn't he a beauty?" remarked Don, indicating an exceptionally bright light. "Yes," agreed his companion, "but doubtless it's a 'she,' because the light given out by the male is a very dim affair."

"Glow-worms are not really worms at all, but beetles. The males will often fly into the open window of a lighted room at night, but the female, as you see, is quite different in appearance and does not grow wings."

LUCKY DUCK

QUACKED a duck in a thunderstorm, "I feel exceedingly happy—and why?
My umbrella's at home,
So uncovered I roam,
And forget that I ever was dry."

Riddles About Men

Why do soldiers catch cold easily? *Because they are so often in drafts.*

What is it a man hates to have yet never wishes to lose? *A bald head.*

Why are sentries like day and night? *Because when one comes the other goes.*

WASPISH

I do not mind you, little wasp, Buzzing round about the yard;
But you a wicked trick have got Of sitting down so very hard.

The Children's Hour

Here are details of the BBC programmes for Wednesday, July 18, to Tuesday, July 24.

WEDNESDAY, 5.20 The Cruise of the Toytown Belle (Part 1), by S. G. Hulme Beaman. 5.50 Letters in the Sand (second series), by L. Sargent—No. 1, Teth the Snake.

THURSDAY, 5.20 The Black Arrow, a story of the Wars of the Roses, by R. L. Stevenson, adapted by David Close-Thomas. Part 3, Dick Joins the Outlaws.

FRIDAY, 5.20 The Log of the Ark—Part 1 of a serial story by Kenneth M. Walker and Geoffrey M. Bumphrey, told by "Mac". 5.30 Robin Hood—First of a series of plays written by Max Kester.

The BRAN TUB

SIZABLE SIGHS

THE Leith police dismisseth us, I'm thankful, sir, to say; The Leith Police dismisseth us, We've bade them "Good-day." The Leith Police dismisseth us, Then we sighed a sigh apiece, And the size of our sighs, as we said our good-byes, Were the size of the Leith police.

Six Wise Sentences

THE desire to be clever often prevents us from becoming so. *It is not enough to have talents; it is necessary to know how to manage them.*

There are some reproaches which praise, and some praises which reproach.

We all have sufficient courage to bear the ills of other people.

It requires more virtue to sustain good fortune than bad fortune.

When you cannot find repose in yourself it is useless to seek it in others. La Rochefoucauld

Rhyming Words

Can you find a word which rhymes with **STRONG**?

Does it resemble a bell-rope?

No, for it's not —
Would it do for an entertainment?

No, for it's not a —
Has it anything to do with a hayfork?

No, it is not a —
Is it mine, can I keep it for ever?

No, for it doesn't —
Is it a lot of people?

No, it is not a —
Would it do to tie up a dog with?

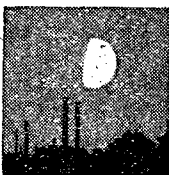
No, it is not a —
Is it the guessing that's hopeless?

Yes, that is it, for it's —
Answer next week

Other Worlds

IN the morning Mars and Venus are in the south-east.

In the evening Jupiter is in the west. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 9 pm BST on Thursday, July 19.

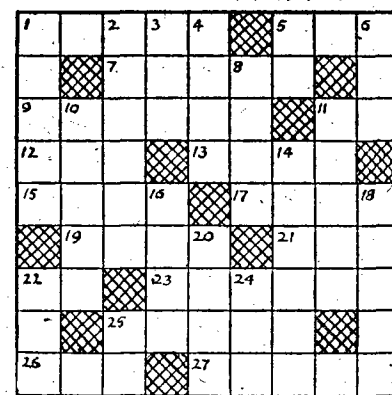


Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 Illumination. 5 A curved line. 7 Pertaining to the country. 9 Combined. 11 Saint.* 12 An illuminant. 13 Every one separately. 15 The handle of a sword. 17 Native of North African coast. 19 An ancient stringed instrument. 21 Professional.* 22 Expresses similarity. 23 Makes suitable. 25 Crowns a church. 26 Part of the foot. 27 Conditions.

Reading Down. 1 To express merriment. 2 Frightful. 3 A cabin. 4 A plant of some size. 5 Chemical symbol for aluminium. 6 An infant's bed. 8 The first man. 10 Grow on the fingers. 11 Not having great length. 14 A penny. 16 A snare. 18 These are the glory of June. 20 To prepare for publication. 22 To perform. 24 Unit of French square measure. 25 Compass point.*

Asterisks indicate abbreviations. Answer next week.



FACTS ABOUT KOREA

A LARGE peninsula on the east coast of China opposite Japan, Korea (or Chosen) was annexed by Japan in 1910, before which it was a kingdom. The Koreans are different from the Japanese in speech and race. The country is about 600 miles long, and is 135 miles at its widest. Its area is 85,246 square miles, rather less than that of Britain.

Korea is mountainous. Its climate is pleasant for nine months in the year, summer heat is tempered by sea breezes. There are severe frosts in some parts in winter.

The population is 22,800,647. The capital, Seoul (Keijo), has 706,396 inhabitants.

The chief products are rice, grain, beans, tobacco, cotton, gold, iron, and coal.



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